



PARTNERING TOGETHER



(a publication of Special Health Care Needs-Family Partnership)
Northeast/Central MO
Spring 2007

~Spring is here! This is the perfect time to get out, enjoy a little exercise, and take in some fresh air! Remember, as caregivers, we need to take care of ourselves in order to care for our loved ones!



~Upcoming meetings:

Look for invitations to the next Family Partnership Regional meeting in Central Missouri. It will be held March 30, 2007 from 10-2. Guest speakers will represent Integrity Home Care, Midwest Special Needs Trust, and DMH (Department of Mental Health).

The next meeting to follow for the North East Region will be held in April in the Chesterfield area. Watch your mail for detail.



Please check out our website for regional meetings hosted by the family partners, as well as family stories and general information about Family Partnership.

<http://www.dhss.mo.gov/FamilyPartnership>

ANNUAL RETREAT

Miller County Health Center and the Family Partners have things underway for planning our next annual parent/caregiver retreat. It will be held again in November 2007, so make sure you watch for details in the next newsletter for retreat information/registration to come and enjoy another fun and information packed time with other caregivers around the state!

Please join our exclusive list serve by sending an email to:

MO-FPsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

Please feel free to contact me with resource needs, conference questions or anything about Family Partnership.
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For more information you can go to the Missouri Assistive Technology website at:
<http://www.at.mo.gov/> or call

Brenda

(800) 647-8557 (voice, within Missouri)

(800) 647-8558 (TTY, within Missouri)



April is Autism Awareness Month....

Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life. It is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the brain, impacting development in the areas of social interaction and communication skills. Both children and adults with autism typically show difficulties in verbal and non-verbal communication, social interactions, and leisure or play activities. One should keep in mind however, that autism is a spectrum disorder and it affects each individual differently and at varying degrees - this is why early diagnosis is so crucial. By learning the signs, a child can begin benefiting from one of the many specialized intervention programs.

~Upcoming conferences:

Power Up 2007 Conference and Expo is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, April 23 and 24, 2007. **Power Up** Conference and Expo has a mission of strengthening the capacity of people with disabilities, educators, independent living staff, occupational therapists, speech language pathologists, physical therapists, information technology technicians, librarians and media specialists, and service providers. Power Up features a variety of sessions which provide up-to-date information on disability related policy, assistive technology services and devices, independent living issues, educational policy and practices, and information technology accessibility to enhance and promote independence of people with disabilities.

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